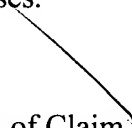


CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for providing security, the method comprising the
2 steps of:
3 establishing one or more protection domains, wherein a
4 protection domain is associated with zero or more
5 permissions;
6 establishing an association between said one or more protection
7 domains and one or more classes of one or more objects;
8 and
9 determining whether an action requested by a particular object
10 is permitted based on said association between said one
11 or more protection domains and said one or more
12 classes.
- 1 2. The method of Claim 1, wherein:
2 at least one protection domain of said one or more protection domains is
3 associated with a code identifier;
4 at least one class of said one or more classes is associated with said code
5 identifier; and
6 the step of establishing an association between said one or
7 more protection domains and said one or more classes of
8 one or more objects further includes the step of
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9 associating said one or more protection domains and
10 said one or more classes based on said code identifier.

1 3. The method of Claim 2, wherein said code identifier indicates a source of
2 code used to define each class of said one or more classes.

1 4. The method of Claim 2, wherein said code identifier indicates a key
2 associated with each class of said one or more classes.

1 5. The method of Claim 2, wherein said code identifier indicates a source of
2 code used to define each class of said one or more classes and indicates a key
3 associated with each class of said one or more classes.

1 6. The method of Claim 2, wherein the step of associating said one
2 or more protection domains and said one or more classes based
3 on said code identifier further includes associating said one or
4 more protection domains and said one or more classes based on
5 data persistently stored, wherein said data associates code
6 identifiers with a set of one or more permissions.

1 7. A method of providing security, the method comprising the steps of:
2 establishing one or more protection domains, wherein a protection domain is
3 associated with zero or more permissions;

4 establishing an association between said one or more protection domains and
5 one or more sources of code; and
6 in response to executing code making a request to perform an action,
7 determining whether said request is permitted based on a source of
8 said code making said request and said association between said one
9 or more protection domains and said one or more sources of code.

1 8. The method of Claim 7, wherein the step of establishing an association
2 between said one or more protection domains and said one or more sources
3 of code further includes establishing an association between said one or more
4 protection domains and said one or more sources of code and one or more
5 keys associated with said one or more sources of code.

1 9. The method of Claim 8, wherein the step of establishing an
2 association between said one or more protection domains and
3 said one or more sources of code and said one or more keys
4 associated with said one or more sources of code further
5 includes establishing said association between said one or more
6 protection domains and said one or more sources of code and
7 said one or more keys associated with said one or more sources
8 of code based on data persistently stored, wherein said data
9 associates particular sources of code and particular keys with a
10 set of one or more permissions.

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1 10. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of one or
2 more instructions, wherein the execution of the one or more sequences of the
3 one or more instructions causes the one or more processors to perform the
4 steps of:
5 establishing one or more protection domains, wherein a protection domain is
6 associated with zero or more permissions;
7 establishing an association between said one or more protection
8 domains and one or more classes of one or more objects;
9 and
10 determining whether an action requested by a particular object
11 is permitted based on said association between said one
12 or more protection domains and said one or more
13 ~~classes.~~

1 11. The computer readable medium of Claim 10, wherein:
2 at least one protection domain of said one or more protection domains is
3 associated with a code identifier;
4 at least one class of said one or more classes is associated with said code
5 identifier; and
6 the step of establishing an association between said one or
7 more protection domains and said one or more classes of
8 one or more objects further includes the step of

9 associating said one or more protection domains and
10 said one or more classes based on said code identifier.

1 12. The computer readable medium of Claim 11, wherein said code identifier
2 indicates a source of code used to define each class of said one or more
3 classes.

1 13. The computer readable medium of Claim 11, wherein said code identifier
2 indicates a key associated with each class of said one or more classes.

1 14. The computer readable medium of Claim 11, wherein said code identifier
2 indicates a source of code used to define each class of said one or more
3 classes and indicates a key associated with each class of said one or more
4 classes.

1 15. The computer readable medium of Claim 14, wherein the step of associating
2 said one or more protection domains and said one or more classes based on
3 said code identifier further includes associating said one or more protection
4 domains and said one or more classes based on data persistently stored,
5 wherein said data associates code identifiers with a set of one or more
6 permissions.

1 16. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of one or
2 more instructions, wherein the execution of the one or more sequences of the

3 one or more instructions causes the one or more processors to perform the
4 steps of:
5 establishing one or more protection domains, wherein a protection domain is
6 associated with zero or more permissions;
7 establishing an association between said one or more protection domains and
8 one or more sources of code; and
9 in response to executing code making a request to perform an action,
10 determining whether said request is permitted based on a source of
11 said code making said request and said association between said one
12 or more protection domains and said one or more sources of code.

1 17. The computer readable medium of Claim 16, wherein the step of establishing
2 an association between said one or more protection domains and said one or
3 more sources of code further includes establishing an association between
4 said one or more protection domains and said one or more sources of code
5 and one or more keys associated with said one or more sources of code.

1 18. The computer readable medium of Claim 17, wherein the step of establishing
2 an association between said one or more protection domains and said one or
3 more sources of code and said one or more keys associated with said one or
4 more sources of code further includes establishing said association between
5 said one or more protection domains and said one or more sources of code
6 and said one or more keys associated with said one or more sources of code

7 based on data persistently stored, wherein said data associates particular
8 sources of code and particular keys with a set of one or more permissions.

1 19. A computer system comprising:
2 a processor;
3 a memory coupled to said processor;
4 one or more protection domains stored as objects in said memory, wherein
5 each protection domain is associated with zero or more permissions;
6 a domain mapping object stored in said memory, said domain mapping
7 object establishing an association between said one or more
8 protection domains and one or more classes of one or more objects;
9 and
10 said processor being configured to determine whether an action
11 requested by a particular object is permitted based on
12 said association between said one or more protection
13 domains and said one or more classes.

1 20. The computer system of Claim 19, wherein:
2 at least one protection domain of said one or more protection domains is
3 associated with a code identifier;
4 at least one class of said one or more classes is associated with said code
5 identifier; and

6 said computer system further comprises said processor
7 configured to establish an association between said one
8 or more protection domains and said one or more classes
9 of one or more objects by associating said one or more
10 protection domains and said one or more classes based
11 on said code identifier.

1 21. The computer system of Claim 20, wherein said code identifier indicates a
2 source of code used to define each class of said one or more classes.

1 22. The computer system of Claim 20, wherein said code identifier indicates a
2 key associated with each class of said one or more classes.

1 23. The computer system of Claim 20, wherein said code identifier indicates a
2 source of code used to define each class of said one or more classes and
3 indicates a key associated with each class of said one or more classes.

1 24. The computer system of claim 20, further comprising said
2 processor configured to associate said one or more protection
3 domains and said one or more classes based on said code
4 identifier by associating said one or more protection domains
5 and said one or more classes based on data persistently stored in

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